

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 4-16 and 24 are pending in this application. In response to the Examiner's Restriction Requirement set forth in the December 28, 2005 Office Action, Applicants provisionally elect for prosecution with traverse, Species I and sub-species A, including claims 12-13 and 24 of Species I and claims 4 and 5 of Sub-Species A, and generic claims 1, 2, 6-11 and 16. Therefore, the election includes claims 1, 2, 4-13, 16 and 24.

As set forth in M.P.E.P. § 806.04(a) and 37 C.F.R. § 1.141, a reasonable number of species may be claimed in one application. Here, the addition of the claims of Species II (*i.e.*, claims 14 and 15) cannot be deemed to result in an unreasonable amount of species presented in a patent application. Accordingly, the Examiner's reconsideration of the requirement to restrict the application is respectfully requested.

An early and favorable consideration of this application is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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